Response to DACA Decision

'Just as natural diversity is vital to sustain ecosystems, cultural diversity is the lifeblood of vibrant societies. Cultural diversity provides fresh ideas and perspectives that enrich our lives in countless ways, allowing us all to grow and thrive together. A culturally diverse classroom is not only more inclusive, it boosts student learning and achievement. A culturally diverse workplace is not only more innovative, it is also more productive and economically profitable."

-Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General United Nations Educations, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

On Sept. 5, 2017, President Trump <u>directed</u> the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to phase out and eventually end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program over the next two and half years.

DACA has protected nearly 800,000 young undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children from deportation and given them an opportunity to achieve the American dream.

We recognize this directive has heightened a sense of anxiety and fear for our families and students. Snohomish County Commission on Human Rights stands with our governor, state attorney general, local legislative delegation and elected city and county leaders against the end of DACA. We have hope that Congress will act swiftly to find a positive solution.

Democracy thrives where human rights are defended and justice is honored as a collective goal of society. The global human rights movement challenges the systems, structures, and institutions that create, defend, and extend oppression and repression in a society.

Resources and information:

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP)

https://www.nwirp.org/resources/daca/

Family Unity Project of Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP) works to ensure access immigration-related legal services from NWIRP.

King County Library

https://kcls.org/blogs/post/daca-in-washington-a-guide/

DACA in Washington: A Guide

Included here is reliable information to navigate what this means for DACA recipients and other folks impacted by this decision in Washington State.

We believe in the U.S. Constitution and the freedoms, protections and opportunities it provides. Together, we must defend the values we hold and stand up for each other. I appreciate the trust you put in Snohomish County Commission on Human Rights and we will do everything we can to protect the rights of our community, including those of our immigrant students and families.

Sincerely,

Carin Chase

Chair, Snohomish County Commission on Human Rights